

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA): Maine's State Prevention Plan Webinar

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Friendly reminder...

THIS WEBINAR IS BEING RECORDED, BY STAYING IN THE MEETING, YOU ARE CONSENTING TO THIS RECORDING.

Please keep your line on mute if you are not speaking.

Question and feedback session will be at the end of the presentation.

Feel free to use the chat box to share any thoughts or ideas.

Survey link will be sent following this webinar to provide an opportunity for additional feedback.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST AND
FOR JOINING US!!**

Today's Objectives

To recap the Family
First Prevention
Services Act.

To provide
information on
Maine's approved
State Prevention Plan.

To discuss
implementation of
FFPSA and answer
questions.

What is Family First?



The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) is a federal law signed in 2018 that:

- Provides Title IV-E federal funding to states for **evidenced-based prevention services** for families to prevent the need for foster care.
- Establishes new standards of care and practice for **youth residential treatment services** that must be followed for states to receive Title-IV-E funds for placement.

Services and supports for families are funded through other State and Federal Funds as well!

Title IV-E

Section of the Social Security Act allocating funding to states for costs associated with youth in foster care and now costs to prevent the need for foster care.

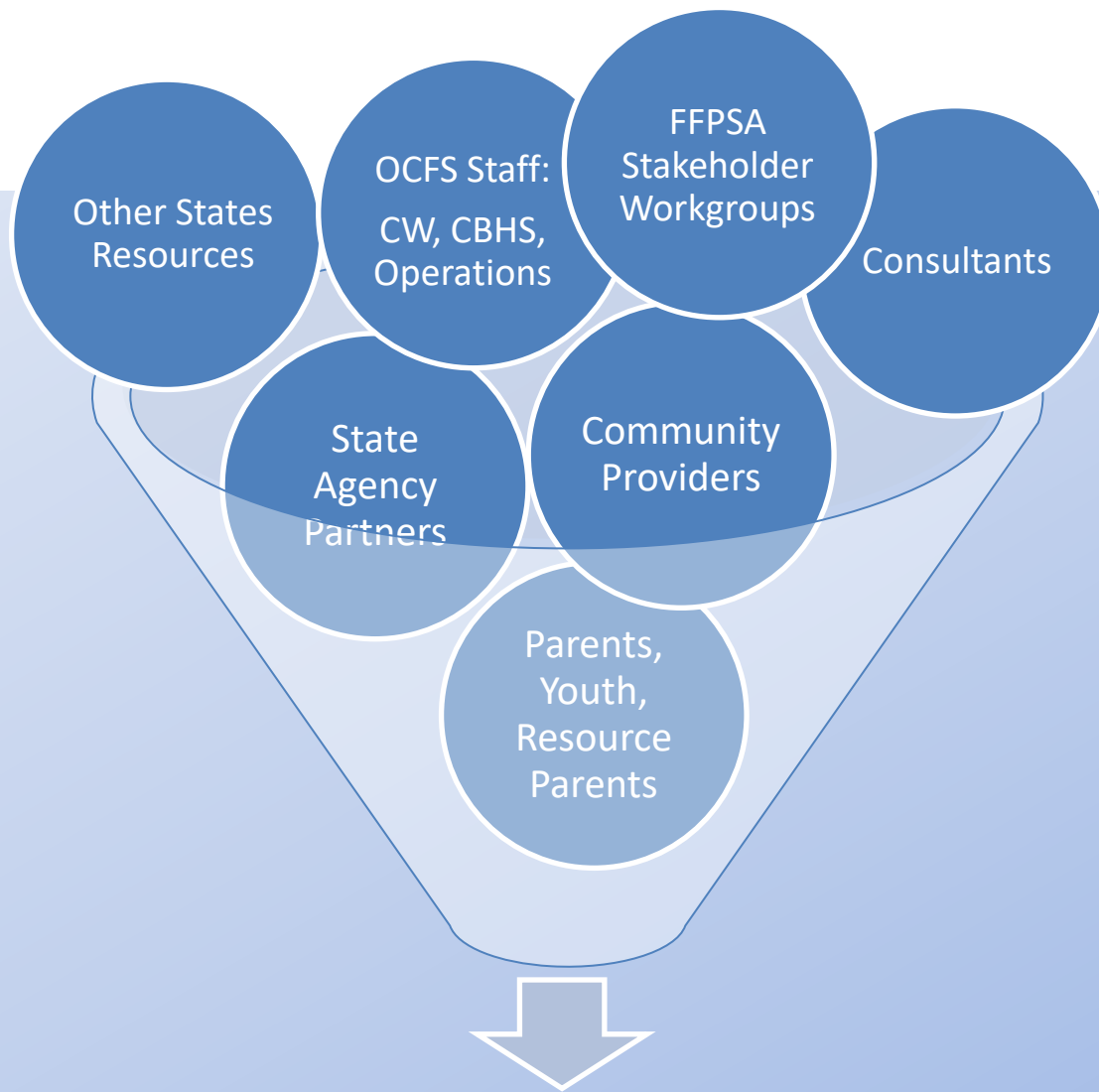
Traditional Title IV-E
Foster care (SAME)



Family First: Adds Title IV-E
Prevention Services (DIFFERENT)

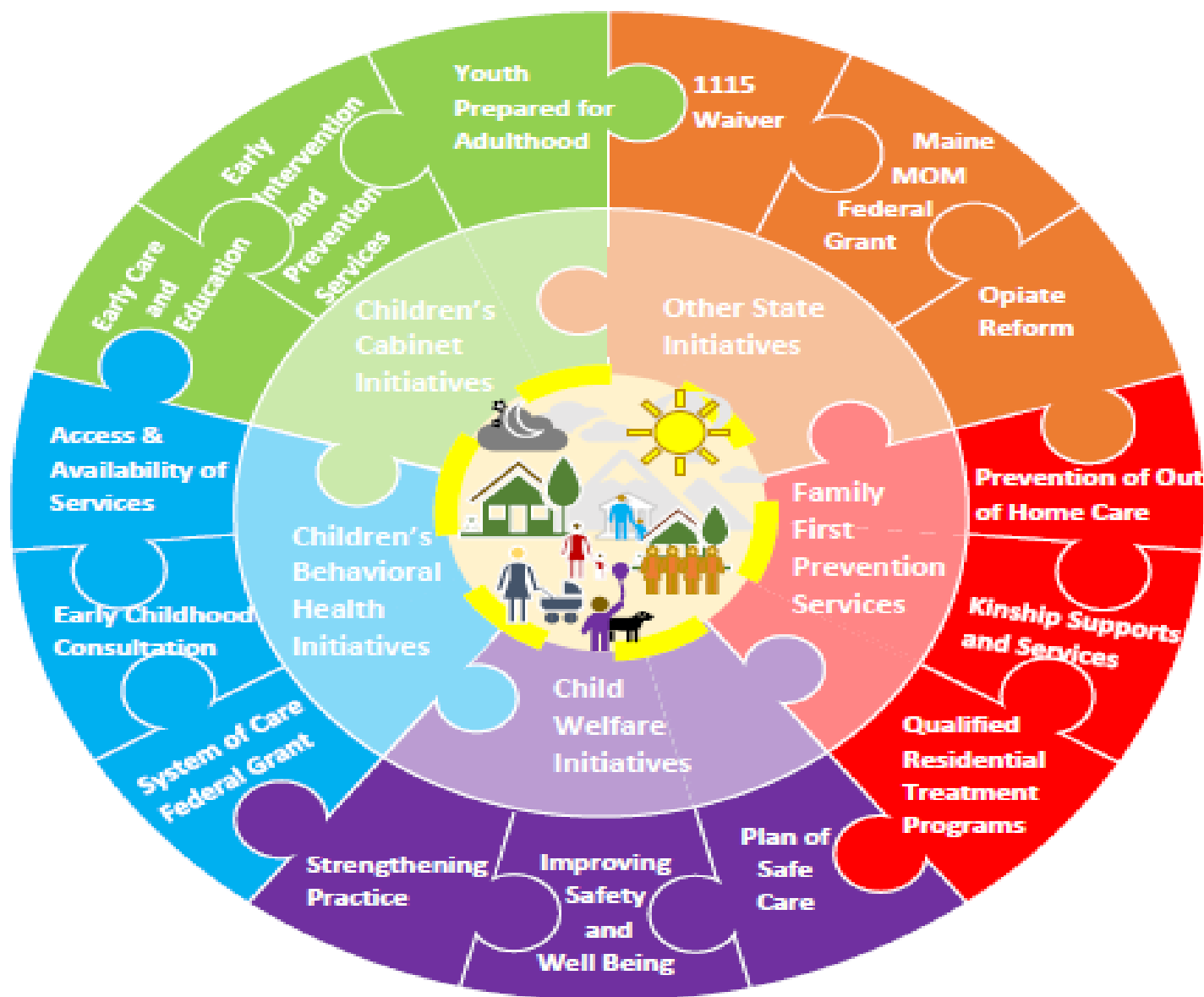


Federal support for:
-preventing the need for foster care
-youth who must enter foster care.



FFPSA State Plan

Working together to support families in Maine....





Prevention Services

Services and supports to prevent removal from the home

Federal Family First Prevention Services

After October 1, 2021, Federal IV-E funds will be available for **PREVENTION** services that:

- occur after the Department has intervened,
- help children remain safely at home, and
- prevent youth from entering foster care!

Services funded by IV-E include specific:

- mental health services,
- substance use disorder treatment,
- in-home skills based parenting support,
- kinship navigator services.

Who is ELIGIBLE for IV-E Funded Prevention Services?

A family may also
receive other
Prevention
Services funded in
other ways....

Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Federal Guidelines:

A child who is a candidate for foster care meaning they are in imminent risk of entering foster care.

Maine's Definition of Candidacy/Eligibility:

- -A child who is a victim of maltreatment in which safety and risk factors can be mitigated by the provision of in-home services and is able to safely remain at home with a child-specific Prevention Plan.
- -Pregnant and Parenting Foster Youth
- -Children who have exited foster care through reunification, guardianship, or adoptions and may be at risk of re-entry.

Determination occurs after investigation and use of Structured Decision Making!

OCFS must have
an open Service
Case with the
Family

The child(ren)
cannot be in
DHHS custody.

prevention Pathways

PRIMARY PREVENTION

(Community Pathways)

Families not known to the Department but may experience minimal or no risk factors.



SECONDARY PREVENTION

(DHHS Referral Pathways)

A child for whom the agency has received a protective services report and upon completion of the child protection investigation, it is determined that there are existing risk factors that can be mitigated by the provision of in-home services.



A child who is a victim of maltreatment in which safety and risk factors can be mitigated by provision of in-home services and is able to safely remain at home with a child-specific Prevention Plan.



TERTIARY PREVENTION

(DHHS Court & Non-Court Case Pathways)

(Candidates for Family First Prevention Services.)

Pregnant and parenting youth in foster care.

Children who have exited foster care through reunification, guardianship, or adoptions and may be at risk of re-entry.



All Maine Children & Families
**SAFE, STABLE,
HAPPY, HEALTHY**

A photograph of a female doctor with short blonde hair and glasses, wearing a white lab coat, sitting at a desk and writing on a clipboard. A young girl with blonde hair in a ponytail is sitting next to her, looking at the clipboard. The background shows a window with blinds. The text "What are the Prevention Services?" is overlaid in white on a semi-transparent dark rectangle.

What are the Prevention Services?

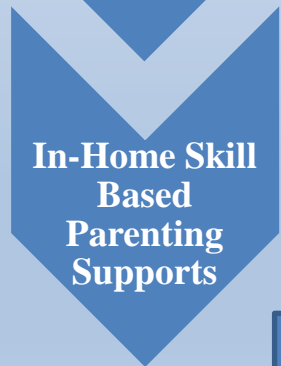
Federally-Approved Evidence-Based Services Under Family First



- **Methadone Maintenance:** Medication Assisted Treatment.



- **Functional Family Therapy (FFT)**
- **Multisystemic Therapy (MST)**
- **Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)**
- **The Incredible Years**
- **Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)**
- **Triple P – Positive Parenting Program**



- **Parents as Teachers (PAT)** – IV-E and State General Fund dollars fund the service which is currently provided as part of Maine's Home visiting Program
- **Homebuilders** – IV-E and State General Fund dollars will provide for development and implementation statewide.

There are currently no federally approved evidenced based Kinship Navigator Programs.

EXISTING SERVICES

Funded through MaineCare and other federal and state funds.

NEW SERVICES Funded by Title IV-E & State funds.

Parents As Teachers (PAT)

PAT is a VOLUNTARY, evidenced based home-visiting parent education program.

Aims

- increase parent knowledge of early childhood development & parenting practices,
- promote early detection of developmental delays and health issues,
- prevent child abuse and neglect,
- increase school readiness

Components

- personal home visits,
- supportive group connection events,
- child health and developmental screenings,
- community resource networks

Currently implemented by Maine Families Home Visitors
but expanded through Family First:

- Current: Program serves children ages 0 to 3 years.
- Current: Referral eligibility is prenatal up to 4 months of age.
- Expansion: Will serve children ages 0-5 years.
- Expansion: Referral eligibility expanded 4 months to 4.5 years.

Opportunity: Serve more families involved with child welfare, and for longer.



Parents as Teachers Program: Implementation Plan

Phased approach with the first phase to include:

- York (and part of Cumberland)
- Kennebec/Somerset
- Penobscot
- Aroostook
- Androscoggin (and part of Cumberland)

As staff are hired and sites are ready to take referrals, individual meetings with local offices will take place.

We encourage everyone to make referrals to the Home Visitors program for children prenatal to 3 months using the CradleMe referral system.

HOMEBUILDERS

Intensive Family
Preservation and
Reunification Program



Serves children 0-17 and
their families



Works with high-risk
families involved with Child
Welfare services to:

Remove the risk of
harm to the child
instead of removing the
child.

Give families the
chance to learn new
behaviors and help them
make better choices for
their children.

HOMEBUILDERS: Program Elements

Intervention at the crisis point: Reaching families when the families are in crisis. Client families are seen within 24 hours of referral.

Treatment in the natural setting: Almost all services take place in the client's home or the community.

Accessibility and responsiveness: Homebuilder's specialists are on call to their clients 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Families are given as much time as they need, when they need it.

Intensity: Services are time-limited and concentrated in a period targeted at 4 weeks. Each family receives an average of 40 to 50 hours of direct service.

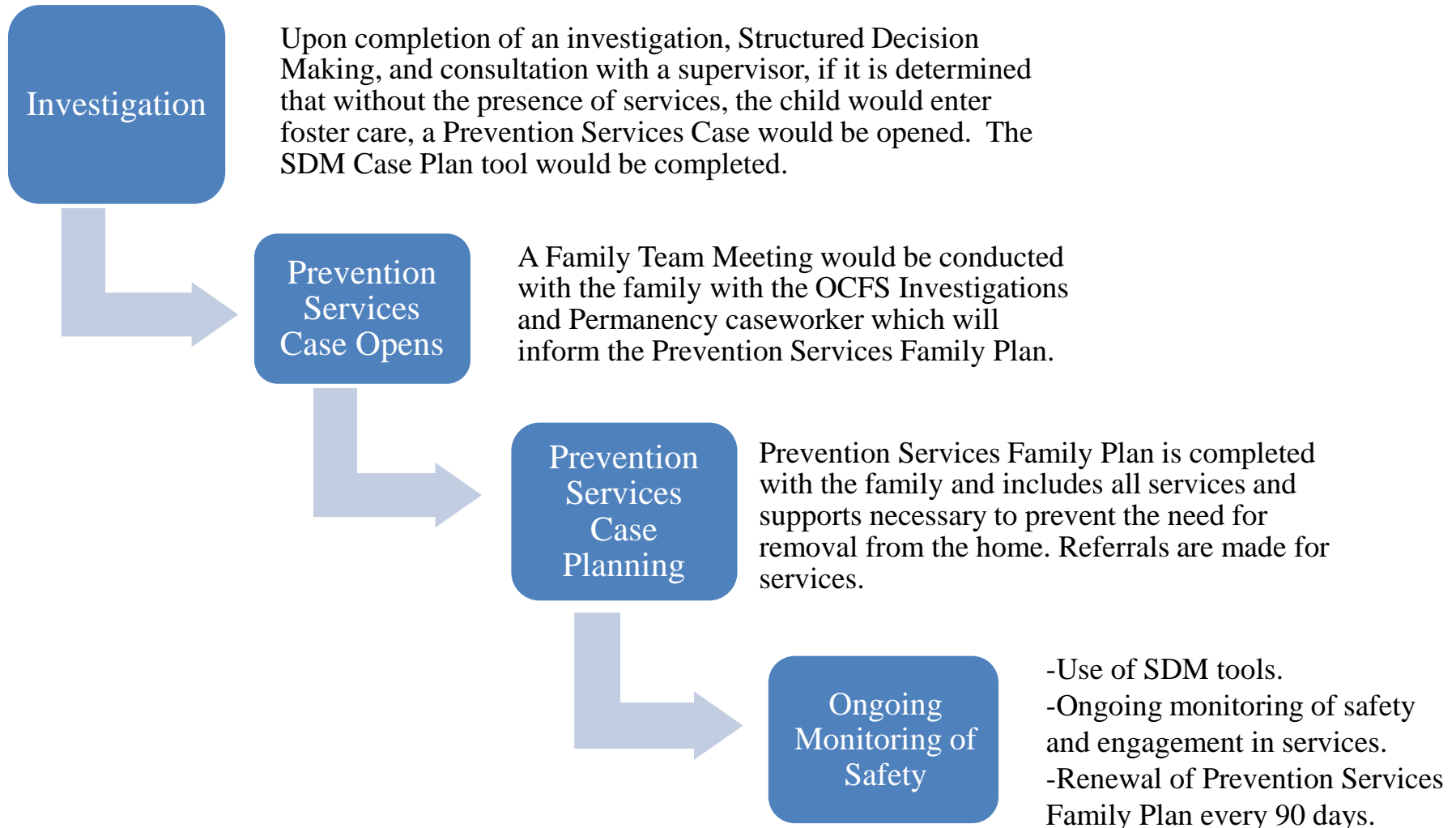
Low caseloads: Homebuilder's specialists carry only 2 to 3 cases at a time. This enables them to be accessible and provide intensive services.

Flexibility: Services are provided when and where the clients wish. Therapists provide a wide range of services: helping clients meet the basic needs, teaching basic skills, and educate families in areas including child development, parenting skills, anger management, other mood management skills, communications, and assertiveness.

Other Services and Supports for Families

- Several efforts are underway as part of our state plan to increase education/information to staff, families, providers about what is available for services to support families in Maine:
 - Services and Supports for Maine Families Staff trainings (June/November)
 - OCFS Staff Toolkit on Family First
 - Development of the Family Services Resource Guide
 - Technical assistance from Chapin Hall on a small-scale gap analysis.
 - On the horizon for 2022: Trainings for service providers on working with families receiving Child Welfare services.

Prevention Services Case Flow



Child Welfare Workforce

Ongoing staff
training and support
will be provided!

Staff have been trained in
FFPSA Prevention and
Residential Treatment Services.

Staff Toolkit has been created
for staff and slated to go live
October 1st.

Ongoing monitoring of
caseloads.

Evaluation/Quality Assurance/Reporting

- Evaluation of process and outcomes of prevention services.
- Continuous Quality Improvement for outcome and fidelity measures.
- EBP fidelity measures through the parent program.
- OCFS Quality Assurance Processes will be utilized to review cases.
- New data management system (Katahdin).
- Policy changes will be made to reflect changes in practice.



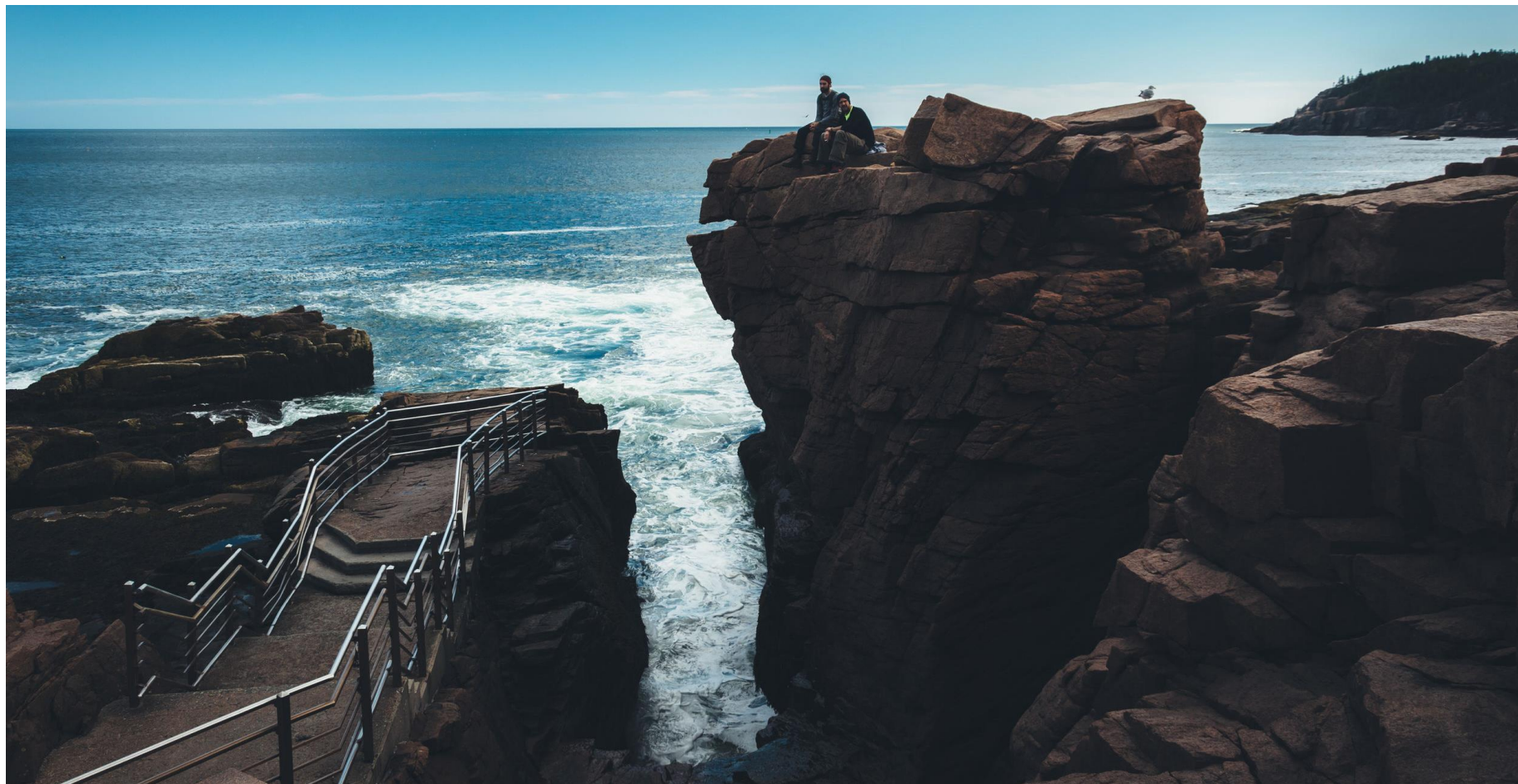
Ongoing Stakeholder Engagement

- Trauma Informed Care Committee:
 - FFPSA & other OCFS initiatives re: TIC
 - Trauma Informed Care Agency Assessment project.
- Behavioral Health/Supportive Services Workgroup:
 - Implementation of Logic Model
 - Draft recommendations for improving workforce issues across BH/SS.
- Implementation Workgroup:
 - Meets bi-monthly to hear updates on implementation and share ideas and feedback into the implementation phase of Family First.
- Cultural and Racial Inclusion:
 - New Mainer/Immigrant meetings
 - Inclusion in stakeholder workgroups
- Youth and Families:
 - YLAT
 - Parent group representation in workgroups

State Agency Partnership for Prevention

Mission: To establish partnerships across state agencies that will result in the provision of a continuum of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention services to families in Maine that will result in safe, healthy, and successful families in Maine.

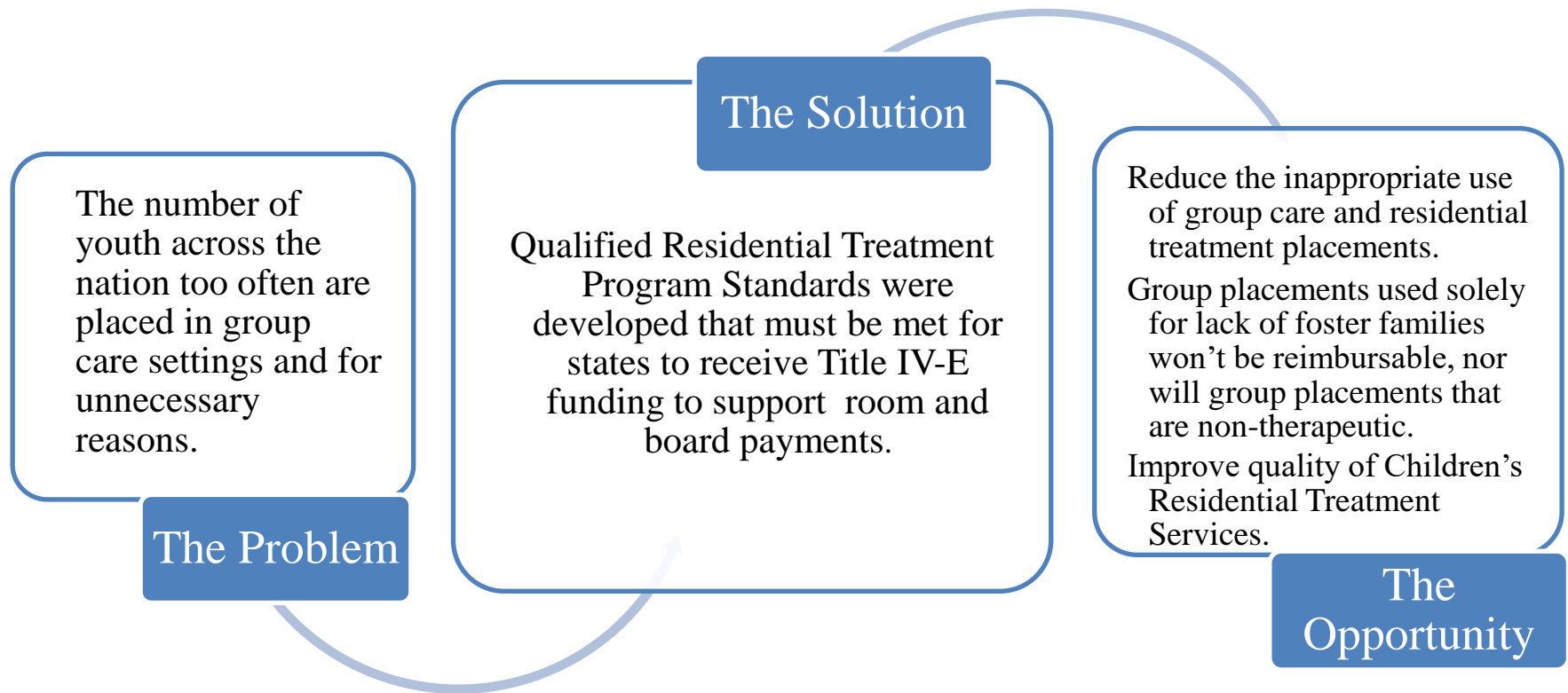
- State Agency Partnership for Prevention (SAPP) was created and includes:
 - Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS)
 - Department of Education (DOE)
 - Department of Corrections (DOC)
 - Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (MCDC)
 - Department of Labor (DOL)
 - Office of MaineCare Services (OMS)
 - Office of Family Independence (OFI)
 - Office of Behavioral Health (OBH)
- Tasks:
 - Inventory of prevention services already being funded or provided
 - Identifying gaps in programs and service delivery
 - Cross program collaboration to increase access, availability, and knowledge of services.



Children's Residential Treatment Services

Children's Residential Treatment Services

Foundational Value: Ensure that the placement of any child in foster care is family-based unless an admission into a therapeutic group environment is essential.



New Standards for Residential Treatment: Qualified Residential Treatment Programs(QRTP)

Process Standards:

- Service Intensity Assessment to determine clinical need for services.
- Judicial Review to review placement need for youth in foster care.
- Monitoring of limited timeframes for federal support for treatment placements.

Treatment Standards:

- Heavy family engagement/involvement including siblings.
- Have registered or nursing staff and other licensed clinical staff available 24/7.
- Use trauma-informed treatment model.
- Program must be licensed and accredited.
- Fingerprint based criminal background checks.
- Provide discharge planning and family-based aftercare support for at least 6 months post-discharge.

Pending
Mainecare/Licensing
Rules



Qualified
Residential
Treatment
Program
Standards

Children's
Residential
Treatment
Services

Intensive
Temporary
Residential
Treatment
(ITRT)

Ongoing Monitoring
Question:
Does the child still have a
clinical need for
Residential Treatment?

MaineCare pays for
treatment costs.
Title IV-E pays for
Room and Board.

- Step 1: A youth is exhibiting behavioral symptoms that may be too dangerous to be treated with community-based services.
- Step 2: The child's guardian, Targeted Case Manager/Behavioral Health Home, Children's Behavioral Health Program Coordinator (BHPC) schedules a meeting with the child's team.
 - Team members may vary depending on custody status.
- Step 3: The team decides whether to proceed with an application for **Children's Residential Treatment Services**:
 - If yes: The appropriate documentation is gathered, the application is completed by the TCM/BHH and forwarded to Kepro.
 - If the child is 10 or younger, approval by OCFS CBHS must be received.
 - If no: Community based services will be explored.

- (PENDING) Step 4: Kepro facilitates a team meeting, completes a Service Intensity (eligibility) Assessment, and facilitates a read-out meeting.
 - Eligibility Met: CW Guardian/Community Case Manager submits completed referrals to all appropriate residential treatment programs.
 - Eligibility Not Met: Youth's team discusses and refers to alternative community-based treatment options.
- Step 5: After admission, parents & caregivers, Child Welfare and BHPC and the provider will participate in all required treatment and treatment meetings.

The biggest change with this application process is the eligibility/service intensity assessment!!

Judicial Review Process

Requirement: The Court must review the child's initial admission into a Children's Residential Treatment Program/QRTP within 60 days.

- **Planning/Implementation:**
 - State law passed establishing the Judicial Review
 - Work with the Family Division, AAG's, attorneys, and a Judge to develop rules associated with this.
 - Development of Notification form, Court Order template, Fact Sheet.
 - Webinar training for Judges/Attorneys
 - State law takes effect October 19.

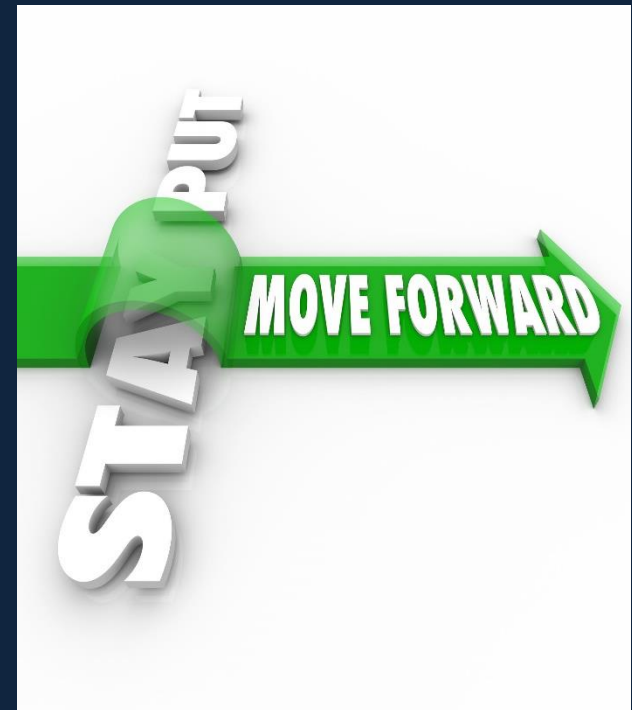


Residential Treatment Services: Next Steps

- Pending MaineCare and Licensing Rules
- Guide development for staff/providers on the Children's Residential Treatment Services Process.
- New federal standards begin October 1st.

Family First Prevention Services: What's next...

- Finalization of service set up.
- Prevention Services referrals/staff education.
- Children's Residential Treatment/QRTP:
 - Planning will continue.
 - Pending rules/rates.
 - QRTP IV-E state plan was submitted and pending approval.
- Finalization of the Staff toolkit.
- Continued collaboration with stakeholders:
 - Trauma Informed Care (TIC)
 - TIC Agency Assessment initiative.
 - Statewide approaches to TIC.
 - Behavioral Health/Supportive Services Workgroup.
 - Implementation Workgroup.
- Evaluation and Monitoring.
- Family Services Resource Guide.



Family First Prevention Services Discussion

Questions, Suggestions, or Feedback?



QUESTIONS??

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Websites for more information and a copy of the State Plan:

- <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/family-first-act.shtml>
- www.familyfirstact.org



Maine Department of Health and Human
Services